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PRESS RELEASE

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IMA-EUROPE MWR ANNOUNCE 'ONE ACT PLAY FESTIVAL' WINNERS

Heidelberg, Germany - Generous applause and enthusiastic cheers were the response to each of the fifteen performances entered in the 11th annual Installation Management Agency – Europe (IMA-EUROPE) One Act Play Festival, October 7th-9th at Heidelberg's Roadside Theater. But the victorious final bow belonged to Vicenza's Soldiers Theatre as their highly creative entry "The Tolstoy Story Plays" was named "Best Show."

The Festival also served as the regional "screening" for a nomination to the upcoming International Theatre Festival, July 2006 in Midland, Texas, sponsored by the American Association of Community Theatre (AACT). AACT created Region Ten (Overseas Military Theatres) in 1997 to recognize the high level of theatrical activity by American military companies outside the US. With their win in Heidelberg, the "Tolstoy" company has been endorsed to International Fest organizers to represent the United States. The show also won the top award for Best Ensemble.

The overall high quality of this year's offerings meant there was plenty of praise to go around. Kaiserslautern's KMC Onstage scored big with the comedy "Pillow Talk" for second place Best of Show, Best Director (SSgt Chris Patterson), and a second place tie for Best Actor for the show's two stars. Ramstein Razz-Ma-Tazz Family Theatre had the winning third place show with "Hansel and Gretel," four of whose actors were also awarded honors, including 12-year old Juliana Knaup as "Gretel," the youngest performer to ever be named Best Actress in the event. Not to be outdone, 7-year old Jack Whitelaw was named Best Minor Role for Bamberg's "Sister Mary Ignatious Explains It All For You."

Military community theatres from fourteen sites in Germany, Belgium, and Italy traveled to Heidelberg, not only to entertain their fellow enthusiasts by performing their one act play, but also keen on honing their theatrical skills in acting and stagecraft through classes and critical observation of other productions.

The educational dynamic of the Festival was always in evidence since three adjudicators offered a fifteen minute verbal critique to the cast, crew, and director immediately following each performance.

Mary Brit (Managing Director, Ocala Civic Theatre, Florida), Morrie Enders (Managing and Artistic Director, La Crosse Community Theatre, Wisconsin), and Annette Procnier (internationally renowned adjudicator from Toronto, Canada) offered lively and passionate observations to the rapt participants and audience, with the intent of reinforcing good work while offering suggestions for improvement.

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Play Festival Winners

The four theatre skills workshops conducted on Sunday provided additional tools for field staff and volunteers to carry with them to improve the programming in their home theatres.

The Festival culminated with a traditional Showcase performance, this year featuring the critically acclaimed production of David Ives' familiar comedy "All in the Timing," by The Slightly Off Center Players of Deer, Park, Texas. The talented guest company nailed every joke, and was rewarded with a rowdy and prolonged standing ovation.

Immediately afterward, the crowded theatre became even more emotionally charged as participants learned the outcome of the adjudicators' decisions in thirteen awards categories. It was also announced that Vicenza Soldiers Theater received the Department of the Army World-wide Entertainment Program Award for 2005.

The prestigious Irving Berlin for Programming Excellence was awarded to Fort Gordon, Georgia.

A complete list of winners is enclosed:

2005 ARMY EUROPE FESTIVAL OF ONE ACT PLAYS

BEST SHOW

**THE TOSLTOY STORY PLAYS
Vicenza Soldiers Theatre**

**Second Place Best Show
PILLOW TALK
Kaiserslautern KMC Onstage**

**Third Place Best Show
HANSEL & GRETEL
Ramstein Razz Ma Tazz Family Theatre**

BEST DIRECTOR

**SGT Christopher Patterson
PILLOW TALK
Kaiserslautern KMC Onstage**

**Second Place Director
Karen Ebert
THE TOLSTOY STORY PLAY
Vicenza Soldiers Theatre**

**Third Place Director
Vikki Hanrahan
LONE STAR
Ansbach Terrace Playhouse**

BEST ACTOR

**LTC Joseph Houser as "Andrew Crocker-
Harris"
THE BROWNING VERSION
SHAPE Entertainment Center**

**Second Place Actor (TIE)
SrA Nicholas Childs as "Aaron" and
RJ Garrison as "Doug"
PILLOW TALK
Kaiserslautern KMC Onstage**

**Third Place Actor
Mike Ewing as "Ray"
LONE STAR
Ansbach Terrace Playhouse**

BEST ACTRESS

**Juliana Knaup as "Gretel"
HANSEL & GRETEL
Ramstein Razz Ma Tazz Family Theatre**

**Second Place Actress
Elena Fritz as "Hansel"
HANSEL & GRETEL
Ramstein Razz Ma Tazz Family Theatre**

**Third Place Actress
Jeanne Ragonese as "Joan"
THE GUYS
Stuttgart Theatre Center**

3/3/3/3

Play Festival Winners

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Stephen Thompson as “John Taplow”
THE BROWNING VERSION –
SHAPE Entertainment Center

Second Place Supporting Actor
SSG Adam French as “Cletus”
LONE STAR
Ansbach Terrace Playhouse

Third Place Supporting Actor (TIE)
SSgt Nicholas Kurtz as “Mr. White”
THE MONKEY’S PAW
Aviano Community Theatre

- AND -

David Jones as “Otto”
HANSEL & GRETEL
Ramstein Razz Ma Tazz Family Theatre

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Tiffany Smith as “The Witch”
HANSEL & GRETEL
Ramstein Razz Ma Tazz Family Theatre

Second Place Supporting Actress
Alina Rozanski as “Louise”
HAIKU
Vilseck Bavarian Arts Guild

Third Place Supporting Actress
Midori Cassou as “Iago”
ALADDIN, JR.
Hanau 5 Pfennig Playhouse

**BEST PERFORMANCE IN A MINOR
ROLE**

Jack Whitelaw as “Thomas”
SISTER MARY IGNATIUS EXPLAINS IT
ALL FOR YOU, Bamberg Stable Theatre

Second Place Minor Role
SGT Michael Heyer as “The King”
THE TOLSTOY STORY PLAY

Vicenza Soldiers Theatre

Third Place Minor Role
Demian Ivulich as “Razoul”
ALADDIN, JR.
Hanau 5 Pfennig Playhouse

BEST ENSEMBLE

THE TOLSTOY STORY PLAY
Vicenza Soldiers Theatre

Second Place Ensemble
HANSEL & GRETEL
Ramstein Razz Ma Tazz Family Theatre

Third Place Ensemble
THE BROWNING VERSION
SHAPE Entertainment Center

BEST MONOLOGUE

Sarah Bright, Kaiserslautern
A, MY NAME IS ALICE

Second Place Monologue
Stephanie Krebs, Heidelberg
MISALLIANCE

Third Place Monologue
Regina Rosenberger, Heidelberg
OUT OF OUR FATHER’S HOUSE

BEST STAGE MANAGER

Carl Johnson
DEATH & THE MAIDEN
Heidelberg Roadside Theater

Second Place Stage Manager
Heather Robl
HANSEL & GRETEL
Ramstein Razz Ma Tazz Family Theatre

Third Place Stage Manager
Jenny Oberschlake
LONE STAR
Ansbach Terrace Playhouse

4/4/4/4

Play Festival Winners

BEST OVERALL DESIGN

**ALADDIN, JR.
Hanau 5 Pfennig Playhouse**

**Second Place Overall Design
DEATH & THE MAIDEN
Heidelberg Roadside Theater**

**Third Place Overall Design
THE BROWNING VERSION
SHAPE Entertainment Center**

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

**The Orchestra
THE WORLD GOES 'ROUND
SHAPE Entertainment Center**

**The Irving Berlin Award for Programming
Excellence**

Fort Gordon (GA) Community Theatre

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